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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/700,516

Examiner

Stephen W. Smoot

Applicant(s)

YAMAZAKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2813

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's election filed on 05 October 2005 and amendment filed on 28 January 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10 and 17-30.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 7-26-04; 12-30-04; 1-28-05; 1-10-06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Stephen W. Smoot

Stephen W. Smoot
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2813

This Office action is in response to applicant's election filed on 05 October 2005 and to applicant's amendment filed on 28 January 2005.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

Change the Title of the Invention to --Method for Manufacturing a Semiconductor Device that Includes Adding Noble Gas to a Semiconductor Film and then Irradiating the Semiconductor Film with Laser Light in the Presence of a Magnetic Field--.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 11-16.

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2. Applicant's election with traverse of Group II in the reply filed on 05 October 2005 is acknowledged. It is agreed that claims 1, 19 are generic and, accordingly, claims 1-10, 17-30 have been examined on the merits

3. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 11-16 drawn to an invention non-elected without traverse in the reply filed on 28 January 2005. Accordingly, claims 11-16 have been cancelled.

4. Claims 1-10,17-30 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- Claims 1-10, 17-18 are allowed because the prior art of record does not teach or suggest, in combination with the other claim limitations, a method for manufacturing a semiconductor device that includes the step of adding noble gas to a semiconductor film combined with the step of then irradiating first and second laser light to the semiconductor film, wherein a magnetic field is applied to the semiconductor film when the first and second laser light are irradiated; and
- Claims 19-30 are allowed because the prior art of record does not teach or suggest, in combination with the other claim limitations, a method for manufacturing a semiconductor device that includes the step of irradiating first and second laser light to a semiconductor film added with noble gas, wherein a

magnetic field is applied to the semiconductor film when the first and second laser light are irradiated.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Nakayama, Izawa et al., and Akiyama et al. teach methods for crystallizing semiconductor layers that feature irradiating with a laser while applying a magnetic field.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen W. Smoot whose telephone number is 571-272-1698. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 am to 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-1702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SWS